

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of inducing expression of at least one gene in a cultured cell, comprising the steps of:
culturing at least one cell; and
contacting said cell with a transcription factor decoy oligonucleotide ~~sequence encoding a shear stress response element and complement thereof; and~~
~~determining the expression of said gene in said cell~~ wherein said oligonucleotide:
i) is a contiguous single-stranded oligonucleotide;
ii) encodes a shear stress response transcription factor binding site; and
iii) encodes sequences complementary to ii.
- Claim 2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises a terminal phosphothiorate moiety and a phosphodiester backbone.
- Claim 3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said oligonucleotide passes cell membranes and accumulates in the nuclear compartment of said cell.
- Claim 4. (Cancelled)
- Claim 5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said cultured cell is selected from the group consisting of an epithelial cell and an endothelial cell.
- Claim 6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said cultured cell is selected from the group consisting of renal cortical cell, renal fibroblast cell, hepatocyte, pancreatic islet, renal interstitial cell, parathyroid cell, thyroid cell, pituitary cell, ovarian cell and testicular cell.
- Claim 7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said cultured cell is grown in two dimensional culture.

- Claim 8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said shear stress response element transcription factor decoy sequence is selected from the group consisting of GAGACC and GGTCTC.
- Claim 9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ one gene encodes a protein selected from the group consisting of megalin, cubulin, erythropoietin and 1- α -hydroxylase.
- Claim 10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the concentration of said oligonucleotide is from about 10 nM to about 10 mM.
- Claim 11-26. (Cancelled)
- Claim 27. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method of claim 1, wherein said cultured cell is grown in a rotating wall vessel.
- Claim 28. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~[[inhibiting]]~~ inducing expression of at least one renal tubular epithelial specific gene in a cultured cell, comprising the steps of:
culturing at least one cell; and
contacting said cell with a transcription factor decoy oligonucleotide ~~encoding a shear stress response element and complement thereof; and determining the expression of said gene in said cell~~ wherein said oligonucleotide:
i) is a contiguous single-stranded oligonucleotide;
ii) encodes a shear stress response transcription factor binding site; and
iii) encodes sequences complementary to ii.
- Claim 29-30. (Cancelled)
- Claim 31. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~modulating~~ increasing 1,25-dihydroxy-vitamin D3 levels in a cultured cell, comprising the steps of:
culturing at least one cell;
contacting said cell with a transcription factor decoy oligonucleotide ~~sequence encoding a shear stress response element and complement thereof~~ wherein said oligonucleotide:
i) is a contiguous single-stranded oligonucleotide;
ii) encodes a shear stress response transcription factor binding site; and

iii) encodes sequences complementary to ii; and
determining the amount of 1,25-dihydroxy-vitamin D3.

Claim 32. (Currently Amended) A nucleic acid sequence encoding, a transcription factor decoy oligonucleotide ~~comprising a SSRE and complement thereof~~ wherein said oligonucleotide:

i) is a contiguous single-stranded oligonucleotide;

ii) encodes a shear stress response transcription factor binding site; and

iii) encodes sequences complementary to ii.

Claim 33. (previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 32, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a phosphothiorate moiety and a phosphodiester backbone.

Claim 34. (previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 32, wherein the nucleic acid encodes SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 35. (previously presented) The nucleic acid of claim 32, wherein a phosphothiorate moiety is substituted for a phosphodiester in the nucleic acid backbone.

Claim 36. (Cancelled)

Claim 37. (New) A nucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO.: 1.